

On the 11th of July, 1860, Thomas Giles was born to George and Mary Greenwood Giles at Provo, Utah. This couple had crossed the plains and settled for a short

time in Provo, but when Thomas, their first boy and third child, was six weeks old, they wound their way up the Provo River to make their home permanently in Heber City.

On the 13th of September, 1864, Rachel Cummings was born to Isaac and Sarah Jones Cummings, just one block west of the Giles residence. She was the first girl born in the Cummings family.

Thomas' father was a blacksmith, a farmer and stock raiser. Rachel's father also was a farmer and stock raiser. Thomas, being the first boy in the family, and Rachel, being the first girl in her family, learned early in life they must work hard and share the responsibilities with the parents in order to keep the homes furnished and clean, food on the table, and clean clothing on the children.

Thomas used to rake hay by hand with a wood rake, sometimes barefooted. He helped his father with the stock and all else that was to be done, never complaining and never seeming to tire, as he loved his work outside from dawn to dusk.

Rachel learned early in life to knit, sew, cook, make soap, candles, and keep a clean house, and do whatever household tasks needed doing. Often the midnight hour or early morning hours would come with her and her sister Mary still scrubbing clothes on a washboard.

As Rachel and Thomas grew into young womanhood and manhood the friendship that had developed through the years blossomed into love. On the 30th of November, 1882, Thomas and Rachel were married in the Salt Lake Endowment House. From this union 10 children were born, four boys and six girls, of which six children still survive, with 225 descendants.

The married life of Thomas and Rachel was one of happiness and contentment, with worries and disappointments mingled with joys and sorrows. They had many friends who would get together with them often. They would take turns entertaining the group at different homes, with dancing all evening to the fiddle and guitar, and climaxing the evening's merriment with feasting and visiting.

Both Rachel and Tom were happiest when they could make others happy. An annual winter occasion was the day all older ladies

in the Giles neighborhood and for blocks around were invited to the Giles home for a day of visiting and reminiscence while Rachel prepared a banquet to be served at the end of the visit. Thomas always looked forward to this occasion as much as any of the guests, as he was the one to gather them up in the bobsleigh, and as he escorted each lady from her door and tucked her into the sleigh the merriment of the party grew.

All was not merriment. Tom and Rachel were called on often, but at any hour of the day or night they gladly aided in caring for the sick or even preparing a body for burial. Any time a neighbor or friend was in distress or sick one might see Rachel hurrying down the street as an angel of mercy, with a shawl thrown over her head and shoulders and carrying a couple of pies, a cake or a tray with a meal of delicious food well prepared.

These two people were friends to all. When Thomas homesteaded land at the time the Duchesne country was opened for homesteading, Tom made new friends of the Indians as well as whites, and many Indians camped in his yard when they came to Heber for supplies. Also the white friends were welcomed at his home on their visits to Heber.

Throughout their married life, Rachel and Tom welcomed many to stay with them to share their home, some for days, others months, and even years. Always those less fortunate were made at home.

As grandchildren were born they, too, were loved and welcomed, just as each child had been. Grandchildren would never forget sitting on grandma's kitchen step, eating bread and honey or the good cookies, of which she was never without. While enjoying grandma's goodies they also enjoyed grandpa relate interesting and true stories, spiced with his own good-natured humor.

Both these people were lovers of nature and beauty. Tom loved to fish and hunt. He loved all of nature and enjoyed studying it, from the sun, moon and stars to the birds, animals and plants. He observed their habits, homes, and where they lived and grew. He always had new and different stories after each trip through the mountains, and if flowers were in bloom he al-

ways took time to pluck the wild flowers to bring home to his wife, who loved them so much. She, too, always had beautiful flowers in windows inside and gardens out.

These two people both died near their birthdays, Thomas the day before his, July 10, 1934, and Rachel 10 days after her birthday, on September 23, 1944.